

BS01396

U.S. Application No. 10/084,948 Art Unit 2192
Response to September 8, 2005 Office Action

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A development and deployment tracking tool for managing a plurality of software releases, said development and deployment tracking tool comprising:

a first list comprising the plurality of software releases, wherein for each software release, the first list includes a release identification and a source type;

a second list comprising software components, wherein for each component, the second list includes a build script and a script type;

a third list comprising a plurality of application operating environments, wherein for each application operating environment, the third list includes an environment type defining a set of nodes on which each application executes, the environment type selected from a common development environment, a pre-production environment, a production environment, a sandbox environment, a system test environment, and an undetermined environment type;

a fourth list comprising a plurality of nodes, wherein for each node, the fourth list includes an environment selected from the third list;

a fifth list comprising a plurality of users, wherein for each user, the fifth list includes a predetermined role, wherein the predetermined role defines the user's access rights to the development and deployment tracking tool;

a user interface for receiving a build request from a user, said build request including a release name, a component name, and a target environment, wherein the release name is selected from the first list, the component name is selected from the second list, and the target environment is selected from the third list;

wherein when a build request is received from a user, the development and deployment tracking tool checks the fifth list to verify that the user's role allows the request, and the development and deployment tracking tool executes the build script associated with the component, and updates a status associated with the build request.

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2. (Original) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, wherein when the build request is complete, the development and deployment tool sends an email message to a user.
3. (Currently Amended) A development and deployment tracking tool for managing a plurality of software releases, said development and deployment tracking tool comprising:

a first list comprising the plurality of software releases, wherein for each software release, the first list includes a release identification and a source type;

a second list comprising a software components, wherein for each component, the second list includes a build script and a script type;

a third list comprising a plurality of application operating environments, wherein for each application operating environment, the third list includes an environment type defining a set of nodes on which each application executes, the environment type selected from a group comprising a common development environment, a pre-production environment, a production environment, a sandbox environment, a system test environment, and an undetermined environment type;

a fourth list comprising a plurality of nodes, wherein for each node, the fourth list includes an environment selected from the third list;

a fifth list comprising a plurality of users, wherein for each user, the fifth list includes a predetermined role, wherein the predetermined role defines the user's access rights to the development and deployment tracking tool;

a user interface for receiving a build request from a user, said build request including a release name, a component name, and a target environment, wherein the release name is selected from the first list, the component name is selected from the second list, and the target environment is selected from the third list;

wherein when a build request is received from a user, the development and deployment tracking tool checks the fifth list to verify that the user's role allows the

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request, and the development and deployment tracking tool executes the build script associated with the component, and updates a status associated with the build request.

4. (Original) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, wherein the role is selected from a group comprising a developer, a configuration manager and a quality assurance tester.
5. (Original) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, further comprising a user interface for receiving a test approval result.
6. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, wherein the development and deployment tracking tool sends a message when the build request has been completed.
7. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, wherein the sandbox environment allows testing of software code without assistance from a configuration manager.
8. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, wherein notifications are sent as each component moves between phases.
9. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, wherein if a component fails a test, the component is returned for correction.
10. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, wherein the development and deployment tool is web-based.
11. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, wherein the development and deployment tracking tool includes a user interface.

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12. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, further comprising a menu for selecting a platform.
13. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, further comprising a menu for selecting an application server.
14. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, further comprising a menu for selecting a directory where a build script resides.
15. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, wherein the build script is deployed to an environment for installation.
16. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, further comprising a menu for selecting a test system.
17. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, further comprising a status reporting feature.
18. (Previously Presented) The development and deployment tracking tool of claim 1, further comprising status reporting feature that subtracts a specified number of days from a current date and displays only requests within that time frame.
19. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium for managing a plurality of software releases, the computer readable medium storing computer readable code for performing the steps comprising:

accessing a first list comprising the plurality of software releases, wherein for each software release, the first list includes a release identification and a source type;

accessing a second list comprising software components, wherein for each component, the second list includes a build script and a script type;

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accessing a third list comprising a plurality of application operating environments, wherein for each application operating environment, the third list includes an environment type defining a set of nodes on which each software release executes, the environment type selected from a common development environment, a pre-production environment, a production environment, a sandbox environment, a system test environment, and an undetermined environment type;

accessing a fourth list comprising a plurality of nodes, wherein for each node, the fourth list includes an environment selected from the third list;

accessing a fifth list comprising a plurality of users, wherein for each user, the fifth list includes a predetermined role, wherein the predetermined role defines the user's access rights to the development and deployment tracking tool;

receiving a build request from a user interface, said build request including a release name, a component name, and a target environment, wherein the release name is selected from the first list, the component name is selected from the second list, and the target environment is selected from the third list;

wherein when a build request is received from a user, the fifth list is checked to verify that a user's role allows the request, and executing the build script associated with the component, and updating a status associated with the build request.

20. (New) A computer readable medium according to claim 19, further comprising computer readable code for defining a deployment chain describing a migration of a software release from one environment to another environment.